



ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 13172.0001U1  
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
DEAN *et al.* ) Art Unit: 1634  
Application No. 09/514,113 ) Examiner: Sisson, Bradley L.  
Filing Date: February 28, 2000 ) Confirmation No. 9257  
For: METHOD FOR REDUCING ARTIFACTS )  
IN NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION )

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.  
Customer Number 23859

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on August 12, 2002, please amend the application as set forth below and consider the remarks that follow. Also, accompanying this Amendment are a Request for a Two-Month Extension of Time and the appropriate extension of time fee.

**Amendment**

**In the Claims**

Please rewrite the following claims.

1. (Twice Amended) A method of reducing formation of artifacts in a nucleic acid amplification reaction, the method comprising  
conducting a nucleic acid amplification reaction using a template-deficient oligonucleotide as a primer,  
wherein the template-deficient oligonucleotide comprises one or more template-deficient nucleotides,